

REMARKS

Claims 1-6 and 8-17 are currently active.

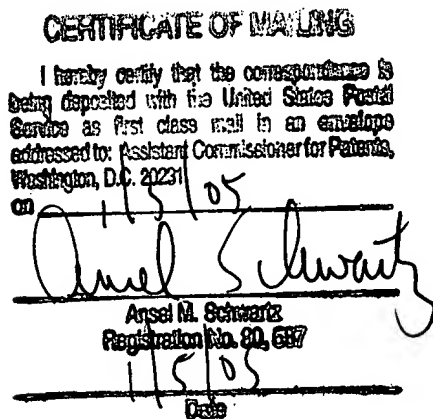
Claims 1, 8 and 10 have been amended.

The Examiner has rejected Claims 1-6 and 10-16 as being unpatentable over Chan in view of Yamanaka. In view of the amendments to the claims, applicant respectfully traverses this rejection. The Examiner recognizes Chen does not teach the limitation "portions of packets as stripes" and cites Figure 30 of Yamanaka as teaching this limitation (see page 3, line 5 of the Office Action). It is respectfully submitted that this teaching has nothing to all to do with the limitation of "portions of packets as stripes" found in amended Claim 1. There is no teaching that a port card sends and receives stripes of portions of a packet to each of the fabrics. Furthermore, "portions of packets as stripes" is a very specific definition to one skilled in the art to which Examiner cannot ignore.

As the originally filed specification states on page 10, beginning on line 25, in the switch architecture, all data is preferably distributed evenly across all fabrics so the switch adds bandwidth by adding fabrics and the fabric need not increase its bandwidth capacity as a switch increases bandwidth capacity. What is key is the data is distributed evenly. That is, the data is not duplicated and 10 exact copies of the original received data is for instance sent

to 10 fabrics, but the data or packet that is received is fragmented into 10 different parts, if there are 10 different fabrics, and the fragments are sent as stripes to the fabrics. To one skilled in the art, it is second nature that when RAID techniques are identified, stripping of fragments of packets will be known in the general sense. Where the novelty and uniqueness begins in regard to the claimed invention is its application to a switching environment regarding packets, where RAID techniques are commonly used in the prior art with respect to video servers. Accordingly, "striping" and "portions of packets as stripes" has a very specific definition and the applied art of record does not teach or suggest this limitation in regard to the claimed invention.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, it is respectfully requested that the outstanding rejections and objections to this application be reconsidered and withdrawn, and Claims 1-6 and 8-17, now in this application be allowed.



Respectfully submitted,

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